

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for the prevention or treatment of retinopathy which comprises administering to a mammal in need of such prevention or treatment an amount of a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor sufficient to prevent or treat retinopathy.

5 2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the retinopathy comprises diabetic retinopathy.

3. A method according to Claim 2, wherein the diabetic retinopathy comprises non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

10 4. A method according to Claim 2, wherein the diabetic retinopathy comprises diabetic macular edema.

5. A method according to Claim 2, wherein the diabetic retinopathy comprises preproliferative or proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

15 6. A method according to Claim 2 for the prevention of diabetic retinopathy in a diabetic not suffering from diabetic retinopathy which comprises administering to said diabetic an amount of a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor sufficient to prevent diabetic retinopathy.

7. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the retinopathy comprises a vascular retinopathy.

20 8. A method according to Claim 7, wherein the vascular retinopathy comprises branch retinal vein occlusion.

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9. A method according to Claim 7, wherein the vascular retinopathy comprises central retinal vein occlusion.

10. A method according to Claim 7, wherein the vascular retinopathy comprises sickle cell retinopathy.

5 11. A method according to Claim 7, wherein the vascular retinopathy comprises capillary occlusion or ischemia.

12. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is administered ophthalmically to the eye or eyes.

10 13. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is administered systemically.

14. A method according to Claim 13, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is administered orally.

15. A method according to Claim 13, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is administered parenterally.

16. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is dorzolamide.

17. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is acetazolamide.

20 18. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is brinzolamide.

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19. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is methazolamide.

20. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is ethoxzolamide.

5 21. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is butazolamide.

22. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is dichlorphenamide.

10 23. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is flumethiazide.

24. A method according to Claim 12, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is dorzolamide, acetazolamide, methazolamide, ethoxzolamide or brinzolamide.

15 25. A method according to Claim 14, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is dorzolamide, acetazolamide, methazolamide, ethoxzolamide or brinzolamide.

26. A method according to Claim 15, wherein the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is dorzolamide or brinzolamide.

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